

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LENDING 01337 271019Z

44

ACTION FBO-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 A-01 SY-05 OC-05 CCO-00 OCL-00

/029 W

----- 097355

R 261430Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL Leningrad

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1519

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Leningrad 1337

EO 11652N/A

TAGS: ABLD, ASEC, UR

SUBJ: CONGEN ELEVATOR INSTALLATION

STATE FOR FBO (ACTION)

STATE FOR SY/FO AND SY/T (INFO)

MOSCOW FOR RSO

FRANKFURT FOR RTC

BONN FOR RCO

LONDON FOR ATO

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: TO CONTINUE WITH ELEVATOR
INSTALLATION A WINDOW MUST BE ENLARGED TO INSTALL
MACHINERY. SOVIETS DISCLAIM RESPONSIBILITY FOR
CONSEQUENCES TO CONGEN BUILDING IF THIS IS DONE.
ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENTAL CONCURRENCE IN U.S.
WIDENING OF WINDOW. END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 02 LENDING 01337 271019Z

2. WE HAVE BEEN REQUESTED BY OTIS ELEVATOR ERECTOR
TO ENLARGE A WINDOW OPENING IN AN OUTSIDE BEARING WALL

TO FACILITATE THE INSTALLATION OF ELEVATOR MACHINERY,
THERCCXLTLLOLPIECE OF WHICH IS 2,496 KG (2 1/2 TONS).

3. OUR FIRST ATTEMPT TO ACCOMPLISH THIS APPARENTLY
ROUTINE TASK WAS THROUGH SOVIET EXPERTISE AND LABOR.
MUCH TO OUR SURPRISE WE WERE TOLD THAT THIS WILL REQUIRE
AN ENGINEERING STUDY OF THE CONGEN BUILDING BEFORE WORK
MIGHT BE STARTED BY SOVIETS AND AN ANSWER CANNOT BE
OBTAINED BEFORE SEPTEMBER 20. THEY ALSO STATED THEY
WOULD NOT GUARANTEE ANY AFFIRMATIVE OR NEGATIVE BY
THIS DATE AND DISCLALCD YZWSRIUUBWBILITY SHOULD AN
EFFORT BE MADE BY OUR SIDE TO ENLARGE WINDOW TO REQUIRED
SIZE. WE HAD MENTIONED POSSIBLE NEED TO ENLARGE
WINDOW, BUT HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED
WORK BE DONE AS WE DID NOT KNOW SIZE OF HOLE REQUIRED.

4. IF THIS EQUIPMENT CANNOT BE INSTALLED IN THE
MACHINERY ROOM WITHIN 2-3 WEEKS THE ELEVATOR INSTALLATION
WILL COME TO A HALT, AND BECAUSE OF OUR INABILITY TO
PROVIDE THE PREVIOUSLY AGREED UPON SEABEE CRAFTSMEN
REQUIRED FOR THIS WORK AND THE POOR SOVIET WORKMANSHIP
IN OTHER ELEVATOR PREPARATION, THE OTIS REPRESENTATIVE
WOULD FIND HIS DEPARTURE VERY EASY TO JUSTIFY ON GROUNDS
WE HAVE NOT ADHERED TO CONTRACT.

5. AN ALTERNATIVE IS TO ATTEMPT HAULING THIS EQUIP-
MENT THROUGH THE FIRST FLOOR LOBBY. ATTEMPTED INSTALLA-
TION BY THIS ROUTE WOULD MEAN THE DESTRUCTION OF THE
NEW WALL FOR THE MACHINERY ROOM WHICH SOVIETS FINISHED
JUST LAST WEEK. THERE ARE OTHER QUESTIONS WITHOUT
ANSWERS IF THIS SCHEME IS ATTEMPTED, IE, CAN WE GET
THIS WEIGHT UP THE FIRST FLIGHT OF STEPS AND WILL
THE LOBBY FLOOR SUPPORT WEIGHT WHILE MACHINERY IS IN
TRANSIT TO ITS LOCATION.

6. DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIETS ON FEASIBILITY OF
ENLARGING THE WINDOW, WE WERE REMINDED THAT ALTHOUGH
BUILDING WAS GUTTED, THE OUTSIDE WALLS ARE ORIGINAL,
(OVER 75 YEARS OLD) THE BRICK MORTAR IS OF THIS VINTAGE
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PAGE 03 Lening 01337 271019Z

AND IN PLACES BUILDING IS BEING HELD TOGETHER WITH
NEW STEEL RODS WHICH HAVE BEEN INSTALLED TO REINFORCE
BUILDING. THEY ALSO SUSPECT OUR POSSIBLE OVERLOADING
OF THE FOURTH FLOOR. WE RAISED THE POSSIBILITY OF
SUPPORTING THE WALL IN QUESTION WITH A STEEL "I" BEAM
(4 X 6 WF) IMPLANTED INTO THE WALL AT LEAST
TWO BRICK LAYERS ABOVE THE WINDOW AND EXTENDING
HORIZONTALLY AT LEAST THREE BRICK THICKNESSES BEYOND
BOTH SIDES OF THE HOLE. SUBJECT WINDOW IS 2.25 BY 1.25
METERS, IS TO BE ENLARGED ON ONE SIDE ONLY TO TOTAL WIDTH

OF 1.4 METERS AND THE BOTTOM EXTENDED TO THE LEVEL OF THE MACHINERY FOUNDATION. WINDOW IS LOCATED IN SOUTH WALL AT BASE OF "U" SHAPED BUILDING, IE, OPENING INTO COURTYARD; WINDOW IS FIRST TO EAST OF PROJECTION FOR STAIRWELL, AT FIRST FLOOR LEVEL.

7. WE CAN SEE NO GREAT PROBLEM IN TAKING OUT SMALL SECTION OF MASONRY INVOLVED, BUT WE ADMITTEDLY LACK TECHNICAL ENGINEERING EXPERTISE ON THIS POINT. DO FBO TECHNICAL EXPERTS ACQUAINTED WITH BUILDING SEE ANY REASON WHY WE SHOULD NOT UNDERTAKE PROJECT AS OUTLINED ABOVE? PLEASE ADVISE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
NEUBERT

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